

February 27E4QUED

Rev. John Joseph Novielli, O. Praem. Development Director

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
THE SECRETAR

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman Commissioner Nanci Langley Commissioner Mark Acton Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is to serve the people of the Tri-State area (Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey), especially the homeless poor.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have the following impact on our mission and the people we serve in Chester County and the Philadelphia area.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. John Joseph Novielli, O. Praem.

Development Director